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HOUSE MEMORIAL

48TH LEGISLATURE - STATE OF NEW MEXICO - FIRST SESSION, 2007

INTRODUCED BY

Jeff Steinborn

A MEMORIAL

REQUESTING THE INTERSTATE STREAM COMMISSION TO INSTITUTE
PROJECTS, STUDIES AND AN INVESTIGATION TO REALIZE AND DOCUMENT
METHODS OF CONSERVING AGRICULTURAL WATER WHILE INCREASING AND
SECURING AGRICULTURAL PRODUCTIVITY AND IMPROVING AND PROTECTING
THE ENVIRONMENT AND QUALITY OF LIFE.

WHEREAS, the state has a long history of significant
beneficial agricultural water use; and

WHEREAS, agricultural water uses comprise from at least
sixty to eighty percent of the water use throughout the state;
and

WHEREAS, competing demands for development, the
environment and current and traditional agricultural uses
require aggressive and effective steps to conserve water to
meet New Mexico's diverse needs; and

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1 WHEREAS, the state benefits greatly from preservation of
2 the traditional acequia system; and

3 WHEREAS, agricultural producers and the acequias will
4 benefit greatly from improved methods of agricultural water
5 use; and

6 WHEREAS, without conservation of water, the economy,
7 lifestyle, environment and agricultural traditions of the state
8 of New Mexico are in jeopardy;

9 NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED BY THE HOUSE OF
10 REPRESENTATIVES OF THE STATE OF NEW MEXICO that the interstate
11 stream commission and office of the state engineer, in
12 conjunction with the New Mexico department of agriculture and
13 agricultural producers, undertake those studies necessary to
14 document methods and practices that can result in less use of
15 agricultural water while maintaining, increasing or improving
16 agricultural production and economics; and

17 BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that the interstate stream
18 commission, the state engineer and the New Mexico department of
19 agriculture report their findings to the appropriate committee
20 of the legislature appointed by the New Mexico legislative
21 council to review this issue; and

22 BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that copies of this memorial be
23 transmitted to the chair of the interstate stream commission,
24 the state engineer and the director of the New Mexico
25 department of agriculture.

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